

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 101222

O R 201646Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1966

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 15808

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, GW

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED AND THE FRG

REF: A. STATE 226570 B. MUNICH 2130

1. A LETTER ALLEGED TO BE A COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM ALLEN DULLES TO FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS WAS PRINTED SEPTEMBER 19 IN PRO-CSU PAPER BILD AM SONNTAG ALONG WITH STORY CLAIMING DOCUMENT IS FORGERY DESIGNED TO BRING DOWN STRAUSS AND SAYING THAT "EXPERTS" SUSPECT THE DOCUMENT CAME FROM THE KGB. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THE LETTER WAS MAILED FROM AN ANONYMOUS SOURCE IN FRANKFURT TO SEVERAL JOURNALISTS, INCLUDING ONE REPRESENTING THE WASHINGTON POST WHICH, BILD POINTS OUT, WAS THE NEWS-PAPER THAT BROKE THE WATERGATE STORY. AS EVIDENCE THAT THE DOCUMENT IS A FABRICATION, THE PAPER SAID THAT ITS NOVEMBER 5 DATE PRECEDED DISCUSSION IN THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE ON THE QUESTION. BILD ADDED THAT US AUTHORITIES WOULD ALSO WRITE THE SALUTATION AS "DEFENSE MINISTER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS" RATHER THAN QUOTE MR. FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS, MINISTER OF DEFENSE, BONN, GERMANY."

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2. IN COURSE OF SEPTEMBER 20 GENERAL CONVERSATION ON

LOCKHEED MATTERS (REPORTED SEPTTEL), MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (MOD) CHIEF CORRUPTION INVESTIGATOR RATH TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE ALLEGED DULLES LETTER FROM AN ANONYMOUS SOURCE IN APRIL. THE COVERING LETTER SAID THE DOCUMENT CAME FROM DULLES'S PRIVATE FILES (PRIVATBESITZ). RATH GAVE A COPY OF THE DULLES LETTER AND THE COVERING LETTER TO JACK BLUM OF THE STAFF OF THE CHURCH SUB-COMMITTEE ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS LATER THE SAME MONTH. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD BY BLUM THAT THE LATTER HAD CHECKED WITH CIA AND BEEN TOLD THAT THE LETTER WAS NOT GENUINE.

3. RATH ALSO SHOWED EMBOFF A LETTER SUPPOSEDLY FROM LOCKHEED VICE PRESIDENT P.A. CLEVELAND TO CDU-CSU CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE HELMUT KOHL DATED FEBRUARY 4, 1976 IN WHICH LOCKHEED OFFERS TO MAKE A "GIFT" TO THE KOHL CAMPAIGN, AND ONE FROM CDU-CSU SHADOW DEFENSE MINISTER MANFRED WOERNER ACCEPTING A LOCKHEED OFFER TO VISIT LOCKHEED FACILITIES IN US AT LOCKHEED EXPENSE. RATH SAID HE HAD INVESTIGATED AND FOUND BOTH LETTERS TO BE FABRICATIONS. HE WAS UNABLE TO ESTABLISH THE SOURCE OR TO SAY WHETHER ALL THREE APPARENT FORGERIES HAD A COMMON ORIGIN, BUT HE THOUGHT THERE WAS GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT THE EAST GERMAN MINISTRY FOR STATE SECURITY WAS THE CULPRIT. THE GOVERNMENT HAS SOME EVIDENCE OF GDR INVOLVEMENT IN AN ATTEMPT TO KEEP ALIVE AND SPREAD A FALSE STORY THAT A CAR DRIVEN BY STRAUSS STRUCK AND KILLED A WOMAN AND THAT THE INCIDENT WAS COVERED UP.

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O R 201646Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1967

INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 15808

EXDIS

4. RATH ASKED EMBOFF TO CONFIRM THAT WAY DATE ("5 NOVEMBER" RATHER THAN "NOVEMBER 5) AND STRAUSS'S TITLE AS DESCRIBED PARA 1 ABOVE WERE WRITTEN ON ALLEGED DULLES LETTER WAS CONTRARY TO USG AND/OR CIA PRACTICE AND THUS EVIDENCE OF FABRICATION. HE ALSO REQUESTED PRESENT STATUS OF JACK BLUM SO AS TO KNOW WHETHER HE STILL WAS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM RATH'S OFFICE.

5. NOTE: BILD AM SONNTAG'S REPORT THAT A COPY OF THE ALLEGED DULLES LETTER WAS RECEIVED BY THE BONN CORRESPONDENT OF THE WASHINGTON POST (PARAGRAPH 1) IS INACCURATE. THE POST CORRESPONDENT, MICHAEL GETLER, DID NOT RECEIVE THE LETTER, BUT WAS INFORMED OF ITS CONTENTS BY DON JORDAN, A BONN-BASED STRINGER FOR CBS, THE GUARDIAN AND VOA, WHO HAD RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM AN ANONYMOUS SENDER.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT PLEASE ADVISE WHAT EMBASSY MAY REPLY TO RATH'S QUESTIONS. THIS REQUEST IS INDEPENDENT OF SIMILAR BUT BROADER REQUEST FROM CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE REPORTED SEPTEL.  
HILLENBRAND

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**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1976  
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